

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 H-01 L-03 /068 W

-----252218Z 041946 /70

R 252011Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9523

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, CO

SUBJ: PRESIDENT DECLARES WAR ON COFFEE CONTRABAND

1. IN A TELEVISED ADDRESS TO THE NATION PRESIDENT LOPEZ ANNOUNCED THAT A MAJOR EFFORT WOULD BE LAUNCHED TO CONTROL COFFEE CONTRABAND. THE PLAN IS PART OF A TRIPARTITE POLICY, THE OTHER PARTS BEING RECENT INCREASES IN DOMESTIC COFFEE PRICES AND LOPEZ' INITIATIVES WITH BRAZIL TO BRING ABOUT COFFEE PRICE STABILIZATION.

2. UNDER THE PLAN THE COUNTRY WILL BE DIVIDED INTO A CENTRAL ZONE WITHIN WHICH COFFEE CAN MOVE FREELY AND AN OUTER ZONE IN WHICH COFFEE CAN ONLY BE TRANSPORTED ON SPECIFIED ROUTES. ONLY CERTAIN PORTS CAN BE USED FOR EXPORTING COFFEE; BY AIR ONLY BOGOTA, BY SEA BUENAVENTURA, SANTA MARTA, BARRANQUILLA AND CARTAGENA. THE MILITARY WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE NEW RESTRICTIONS ON COFFEE MOVEMENTS. COMMITTEES WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN EACH PORT OF REVIEW EXPORT DOCUMENTS BECAUSE MOST OF THE ESTIMATED ONE MILLION BAGS OF COFFEE CONTRABAND LEAVES BY WAY OF UNDER-INVOICING

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AND OTHER DOCUMENT LEGERDEMAIN.

3. REFERRING TO THE COFFEE COUNCIL MEETING, LOPEZ SAID THAT SINCE IT WAS A SELLERS' MARKET COLOMBIA SHOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO BRING ABOUT A STABILIZATION OF COFFEE PRICES BEFORE THE MARKET TURNS BUYER. LOPEZ SAID HIS INITIATIVE WITH BRAZIL HEADED OFF POTENTIAL OFFICIAL

USG EFFORTS TO CONTROL COFFEE PRICES.

4. COMMENT: SINCE MOST COFFEE CONTRABAND IS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH
PAPER WORK, ONE WONDERS JUST HOW EFFECTIVE THE NEW MEASURES CAN BE.
DOMESTIC PRICES TO PRODUCERS ARE LESS THAN A THIRD WORLD PRICES
AND THIS INCENTIVE IS ENTICING INDEED. IN THE PAST THESE TYPES OF
SPECIAL
CONTROLS IN COLOMBIA HAVE LED TO INCREASED BUREAU-
CRATIC COMPLEXITY AND LOTS OF COUNTER
SIGNATURES BUT NOT MUCH REDUCTION IN THE PROBLEMS BEING
ATTACKED.
SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COFFEE, PRICE STABILITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BOGOTA00775
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770027-0517
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770122/aaaaatbs.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9a7f9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3515671
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT DECLARES WAR ON COFFEE CONTRABAND
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EFIN, CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9a7f9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009